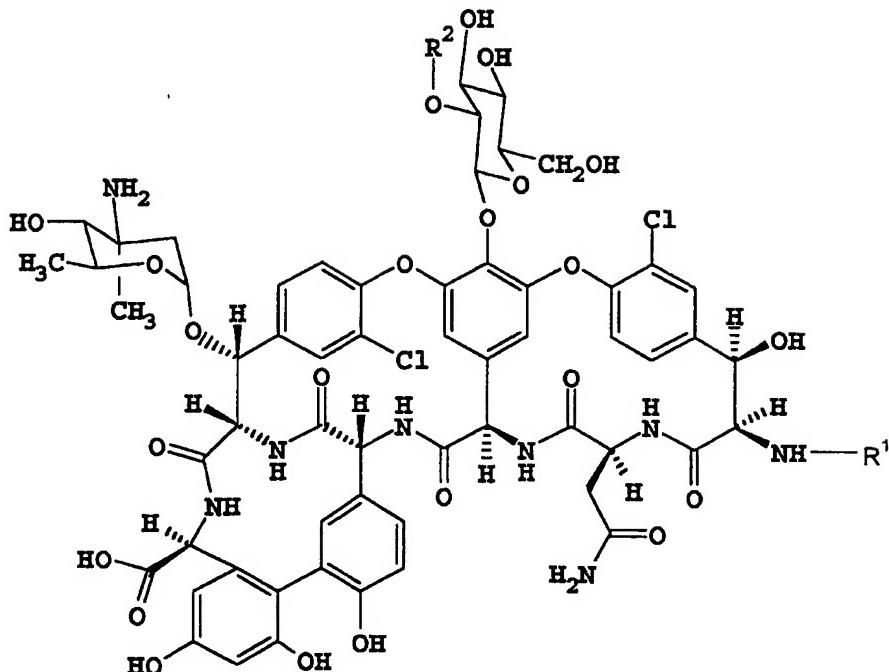


- 25 -

WE CLAIM:

1. A compound of the formula



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wherein R¹ represents

alkanoyl of C₂-C₁₀ which is unsubstituted, or which is substituted by a phenyl, or which is substituted on other than the α-carbon atom by an amino or protected amino group;

10 benzoyl or substituted benzoyl bearing one or two substituents each of which is independently halo, loweralkyl of C₁-C₄, loweralkoxy of C₁-C₄ or phenyl;

an acyl derived from an α-amino acid or an acyl derived from a protected α-amino acid, said α-amino acid being

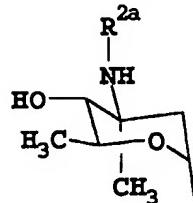
15 selected from the group consisting of:

- 26 -

alanine,
arginine,
asparagine,
5 aspartic acid,
cysteine,
glutamic acid,
glutamine,
glycine,
10 histidine,
isoleucine,
leucine,
lysine,
methionine,
15 3-phenylalanine,
3-(p-chlorophenyl)alanine,
proline,
serine,
threonine,
20 tryptophan and
valine,
in either D- or L-form; or
an acyl derived from an α -amino acid as defined
above which bears on the amine a substituent which is alkyl
25 of C₁-C₁₀, benzyl, phenylbenzyl, or p-chlorobenzyl, with the
proviso that the acyl derived from N-methyl-D-leucine is
excluded;

-27-

R^2 represents hydrogen or an epivancosaminylof the formula



5

wherein R^{2a} represents hydrogen or $-CH_2-R^3$; and R^3 represents
hydrogen,

alkyl of C_1-C_{11} ,

alkyl of $C_1-C_{11}-R^4$, or

10 $R^4-(\text{linker}_{(0 \text{ or } 1)}-R^4)_{0 \text{ or } 1}$,

wherein each R^4 is independently phenyl or phenyl substituted by one or two substituents, each of which is independently halo, loweralkyl of C_1-C_8 , loweralkoxy of C_1-C_8 , loweralkylthio of C_1-C_4 , or trifluoromethyl, and

15 "linker" is $-O-$, $-CH_2-$, or $-O-(CH_2)_n-$ wherein n is 1-3;

2. A compound of Claim 1 in which R^2 is an epivancosaminylo radical wherein R^{2a} represents hydrogen,

3. A compound of Claim 2 in which R^2 is an epivancosaminylo radical wherein R^{2a} represents $-CH_2-R^3$.

20 4. A compound of Claim 3 in which R^3 is p-biphenylyl.

5. A compound of Claim 3 in which R^3 is p-(p-chlorophenyl)phenyl.

-28-

6. A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound of any of Claims 1-5 in combination with a pharmaceutically-acceptable diluent or carrier.

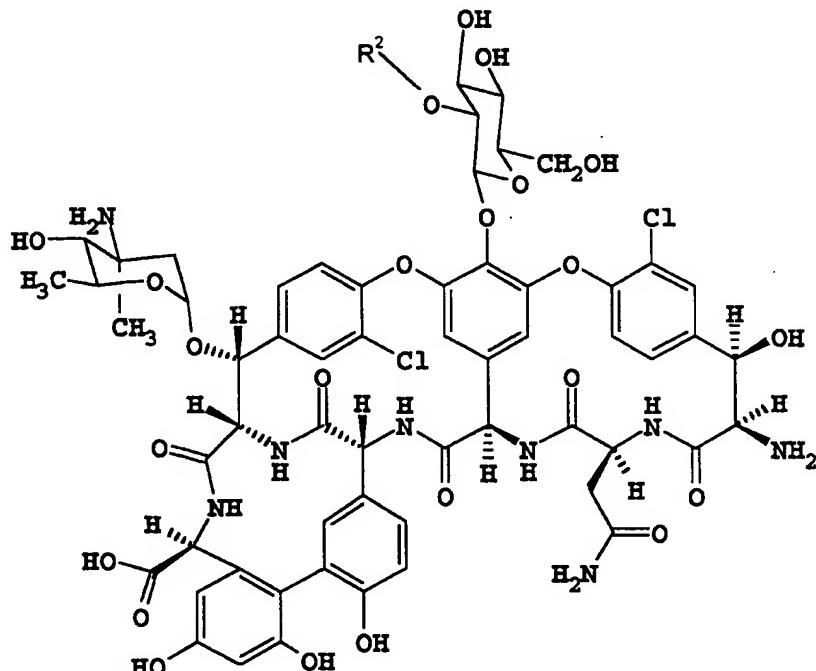
5 7. A method of treating a bacterial infection in a host comprising the step of administering to the host an effective amount of a formulation of Claim 6.

8. A method of Claim 7 wherein the bacterial infection is attributable to a vancomycin-resistant-enterococcus.

10 9. A compound of any of Claims 1-5 for use in antibacterial therapy.

10. A compound of any of Claims 1-5 for use in antibacterial therapy against vancomycin-resistant-enterococcus.

15 11. A process for the preparation of a compound as claimed in any one of Claims 1-5 which comprises reacting a parent glycopeptide of the formula



-29-

wherein R² is as defined in Claim 1, with an activated ester of an alkanoic acid of the desired R¹ as defined in Claim 1, and if desired, thereafter reductively alkylating the N^{DISACC} amine and/or forming a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.